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VOLUME 5

Atlanta, Georgia - June 1939

NUMBER 6

WISE PROGRAM

(Reprint from the editorial page of the
Atlanta Constitution - June 4, 1939)

"The United States Forest Service has set a worthwhile goal for itself. It plans development of forest products industries to a point where nine million acres of government-owned reserves in the south will pay their own way and, in time, net Uncle Sam a neat amount on the profit side. The program calls principally for the sale of matured timber to privately-owned sawmills adjacent to national forests. This part of the program is already in operation in some states. Additional revenue is anticipated from naval stores, pulpwood, etc.

"Supervisors of the service in 11 southern states, convening here in annual meeting, stated that this year the government is expected to gross more than \$600,000 from sales of products in its southern forests and, within three or four years, it was predicted, the gross is expected to reach more than a million dollars. In 25 years, the gross will be much greater, how much greater the supervisors hesitated to state. But it is safe to assume it will be in the big money. And the beauty of it is the government will still have its forest reserves.

"An interesting new development in the program is the mill at Clayton, situated in the Chattahoochee National Forest. The area adjacent to the mill yields about four or five million feet of timber a year without depleting reserves. The mill takes some three million feet a year and employs about 25 men. Operators feel sure

the timber resources will be sustained over a long period of years.

"All these efforts are extremely cheering. That there is wealth in the woods goes without saying. That the wealth in the woods should be intelligently conserved and handled is an important job in which progress is being made."

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GUM NAVAL STORES PRODUCTION IN THE SOUTHERN REGION

The Annual Naval Stores Report, recently issued by the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, shows that Georgia produces over one-half of gum naval stores in the United States. Florida comes next with a production a little less than half the amount of Georgia, and the two States together yield about 85% of the American gum naval stores production.

The production for the 1938-39 season (April 1, 1938 to March 31, 1939), segregated by States is as follows:

<u>State</u>	<u>Turpentine</u> (50 gal. bbls.)	<u>Rosin</u> (Bbls. 500 lbs gross)
	(Percent)	
North Carolina	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
South Carolina	14,387 (2.69)	50,156
Georgia	305,791 (57.24)	1,016,643
Florida	148,870 (27.86)	504,691
Alabama	44,730 (8.38)	149,649
Mississippi	16,652 (3.11)	58,639
Louisiana	3,861 (.72)	13,173
Texas	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
	534,291	1,792,951

1/ Combined with South Carolina

2/ Combined with Louisiana

For the past three seasons the ratio of production by States has not changed very much. The center of gum naval stores production still remains in southeast Georgia and north Florida.

-- Joseph Yencso, Regional Office

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH BROAD

On May 7 Jr. Forest Guard Frank Parks took complete action on a fire in his territory as follows: (1) Discovered the fire; (2) Was first man to arrive on fire; (3) Took initial suppression action; (4) Completed mop-up; (5) Assisted in fire law enforcement work. The fire was quite small and occurred as the result of a careless camper leaving his fire without fully extinguishing it. The culprit was not apprehended, although Tom Huffman and "Kate" made a long trip from the Pisgah District to lend assistance.

On May 18 a certain foreman was completing mop-up on the Maple Springs Branch Fire and instructed an enrollee to "feel in there and be sure she's dead out," to which the enrollee replied, "There ain't no fire in there and besides I don't want to burn my hand."

Recently a Ranger on the Pisgah was following up a clew in some law enforcement work and was carried--in his hearse--far off his regular travel route. He drove up to the dead end of a wagon road, turned and started back when he was flagged by a breathless woman who asked with tense excitement, "Who's dead? I saw your ambulance go by."

-- C. C. Davenport, District Ranger
Pisgah National Forest

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AFIELD WITH THE BUILDERS OF DAMS AND BRIDGES

Assistant Regional Forester Pidgeon reported to the Chief's Office June 1 for detail of not less than two months to assist in supervising the multitudinous details in connection with the completion of CCC central repair shops throughout the Forest Service. He will not only see that the buildings are completed, but will make a serious attempt to get the actual repair operations into working order. Apparently the reputation that Pidgeon has developed in Region 8 by the early establishment and successful and efficient operation of central repair shops has spread beyond the confines of the Region and his good work is to be rewarded by giving him an opportunity to overwork himself throughout the United States as well as in Region 8.

* * *

Rodulfo del Valle, Forest Engineer on the Caribbean Forest, Puerto Rico, arrived in the Regional Office May 24 and will stay with us through the month of July, during which time he will make several trips to various parts of the Region to obtain at first hand knowledge as to the methods followed in the States in the construction and maintenance of forest improvements and engineering structures. His engaging personality has already made him a very welcome guest, and many of us will regret the termination of his detail. Several of the supervisors will have an opportunity of becoming further acquainted with him.

The engineering architectural force is somewhat depleted due to the absence of DeFord Smith who is on an extended detail in connection with the construction of the Mt. Magazine Lodge on the Ouachita, the absence of Jimmy Warthen in Florida where he is constructing cabins for turpentine operators, and the detail of Grady Burnett to the Pisgah in connection with the design of a reinforced concrete bridge.

-- Geo. W. Root, Regional Office

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W.O. REMARKS ON CONTENT OF NEWS LETTERS

(Quoted below is the letter of May 8, 1939 sent to all regions by Dana Parkinson, Chief, Division of Information and Education.)

"In commenting on the periodicals submitted in response to a questionnaire of the Interdepartmental Committee on Printing and Processing, the Acting Director of Information said some types of material in Forest Service news letters might lead to serious criticism of the Department. He pointed out the Department's policy is to have news letters carry official information of direct value in connection with the work of the issuing agencies; and that news letters carrying too much poetry and too many jokes can easily lead to ridicule and criticism for apparently having been prepared at Government expense.

"The material does not necessarily have to be 'strictly official' or heavy and uninteresting. In other words, there should be no objection to certain types of material that tend to promote fellowship and organizational spirit. Nevertheless, in making the above suggestions, the Acting Director has in mind protecting the Department against ridicule and criticism, as well as saving time of the readers and of those who produce the material, and saving paper work. He wished to stress the point that news letters can be made interesting and effective without publishing too much matter remotely related to official work."

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THE LADIES - GOD BLESS THEM!

Recently the Ozark completed the planting of a five acre memorial forest for a local organization. Several letters giving details of the planting were sent to the chairman of the organization (a lady). She in turn took one of them to a newspaper reporter (also a lady) with the idea of getting a little publicity for the organization. In the rush of news, the writing of the article was postponed. The lady reporter lost the letter, and unexpurgated excerpts from her appeal to the U.S.F.S. follow:

"Dear Mr. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture
Russellville, Arkansas.

"... I cannot find the damn letter. I have spent hours looking for it. I do not want to tell Mrs. _____ it is lost. And, too, I want to give her a story on it.

WON'T YOU PLEASE SEND ME A (SIGNED) COPY from which I shall write a story for next Sunday and then send her the letter that you have supplied me with and she will never know that I lost her precious manuscript.

"I have no identification for you. Here's the envelope the document came in ...

"Please do this at once--if you do--since this is Wednesday and Sunday is Sunday. I'll do something for you some day if I ever learn your name. How about praying for you? That is not too expensive, and I'm sure I would do it well.

Sincerely,

Bessie Smith (Her agitated signature)"

Mr. Koen's chivalrous reaction was couched in the following language:

"Dear Miss Smith:

" ... I am enclosing an original (signed) copy of my letter of May 1, together with the envelope you sent me and a copy of a news release that we referred to in the letter, which will make everything okeh, provided we haven't got our dates switched. If this is not the letter, woe be unto you and the Forest Service. We need prayers, so get down on your knees and see what results you can get in seeing that this whole darn thing is straightened out.

Very sincerely yours,

H. R. KOEN"

The following reply received by Mr. Koen from the lady reporter is the last in the series of these epochal letters:

"The country and my Chinese face is saved. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bessie Smith (Her grateful signature)"

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COTTON HITS BACK AT WOOD

"Cotton may hit back at wood, which has taken a good deal of its business away via the rayon route, it was suggested at the recent meeting of the Virginia Academy of Science at Danville. Synthetic insulating lumber has been made out of pulped whole cotton plants, according to Herbert R. Bates and Professor Frank C. Vilbrandt of Virginia Poly-

technic Institute. The cotton plants, bolls and all, were pulped in a laboratory rod mill and the pulp squeezed between heated plates in a hydraulic press. The material thus made came out satisfactorily in tests for strength, density and heat insulation."--Science, May 26, 1939

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LOGGING AND MILLING COST DATA

An interesting study of logging and milling costs has recently been initiated by the Division of Forest Economics of the Chief's Office. Cooperating in the project are the Forest Products Laboratory, the Divisions of Timber Management and State and Private Forestry of the Regional Office, and offices of several State Foresters.

Data are being collected from several small mills and concentration yards in eight States of the Region. Jim Girard has temporarily established headquarters in the Regional Office to supervise the field work which should be completed before July 1.

-- C. W. Strauss, Regional Office

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MAP COMPILATION FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

When the projects now under way have been completed, and it is hoped that they can be completed during the coming fiscal year, the Regional Office map compilation crew, working under the direction of Mr. Hedden, will have compiled in about three years time accurate maps, from aerial photographs and field traverse notes, covering approximately six million acres.

These maps are drawn to a scale of 2 inches to the mile; they show all roads, all streams more than a half-mile in length, all township and section lines as surveyed by the U. S. General Land Office, and many other cultural and natural features. And all of these features are shown in their correct positions, not only in correct relative positions, but each one in its actual position, by latitude and longitude, on the earth's surface. The latitude (distance north of the equator) and longitude (distance west of the meridian through Greenwich) for any feature may be scaled from the map with a fair degree of certainty that the figures are correct within one hundred feet.

These maps are far superior to any that existed covering National Forests in eastern United States prior to 1934, at which time our aerial photographic work was started. When used in conjunction with the actual photographs, they give field officers very complete information as to what exists on the ground.

The Division of Engineering believes that the cost figures for these maps are rather low, and is correspondingly proud of them. Roughly, for the six million acres mentioned above, the average price

for the pictures, field work and compilation is 1-1/4 cents per acre. Again roughly, this can be divided as follows: pictures 1/4 cent, and field work and compilation each 1/2 cent.

The cost of our pictures illustrates an interesting example of cooperation between Government agencies. Ordinarily, aerial photographs meeting our specifications, for areas such as National Forests, would cost at least 1/2 cent per acre, and probably about 1 cent. Our cost of 1/4 cent was attained by cooperating with the War Department and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. In Alabama the Army Air Corps agreed to photograph our forests after we had failed to obtain commercial bids. The cost to us was less than 2/10 cent per acre. A number of our areas have been photographed by the AAA in connection with projects which include the entire counties in which the National Forest land lies. For these areas the photographs cost us only the cost of making extra prints from the AAA negatives--less than 1/10 cent per acre. The average price was brought up to 1/4 cent per acre by pictures which we bought, under contract, from a commercial firm.

Something over 90% of the total area of National Forests in Region 8 will soon be covered by aerial photographic maps, and it is our aim to make this figure 100% as soon as possible.

-- W. N. Sloan, Topographic Engineer
Regional Office

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The Regional Office heard with sorrow the news of the death of Russell F. Newcomb, District Forester, South Carolina Forest Service, at Spartanburg on May 19. He leaves a wide circle of friends in the Region Eight Forest Service. We extend our sympathy to his bereaved family and to his many close friends in the South Carolina Forest Service.

LOOKOUT LIBRARIES
(Clipped from R-1 News)

"Despite much plain and fancy footwork trying to avoid the odious spring housecleaning detail, it finally caught up with us, and there we were in the fruit cellar - with a broom in the hand, dust in the nose, cobwebs in the hair, and a feverish temper. The miserable

perspective was what you might expect - hipboots, beer bottles, fruit jars, Xmas tree trimmings, miscellaneous hardware, assorted paints, discarded lamp shades, a sack of pillow feathers, and stacks of old magazines. What to do with all those magazines? This problem, being entirely too weighty to ponder standing up, we sat down with a stray bottle of grape juice and started shuffling and sorting through the pile. Albeit the periodicals were from one to four years of age, we found that the articles and stories (many of which we had passed up when currently received) were surprisingly fresh and interesting.

'Boy, oh boy,' we thought, 'if we had only had this pile of magazines up on Slide Rock and Quigg Peak Lookouts a number of years back, it would have been a life-saver.'

"And that's the point of this apparently pointless comment - LOOKOUT LIBRARIES! Instead of stocking our protection points with the usual run of 'True Story', 'Nude', 'Detective Story', 'Autobiographical Sketches of French Stenographers', and miscellaenous other blood-curdling and sexy publications, how about going to work on each district and establishing a collection of sound reading matter on each lookout. Why shouldn't a vermin-proof magazine rack be a built-in feature of every tower? True, we don't want the lookout to spend all his time reading, but experience has convinced us that at best he's going to have a lot of time to read anyway, and that good reading will have a lot to do with his peace of mind and general contentment. Our protection men cannot afford to buy the better class of magazines, but in many of our basements we have hundreds of dollars worth of them lying useless. We keep harping on personnel welfare and personnel education, but the lookout - one of our key men - has never received more than passing consideration. Anyone who has been through it knows that his job is anything but a bed of roses at best. We could do a lot to make his life more pleasant if we would - and providing him with a beneficial library is a good way to start. And, by and by, it might not be a bad hunch to put in a few such libraries in the more accessible bunkhouses. What do you say, rangers?"

What do you say, Region 8?

-- Rachel P. Lane, Librarian

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COURT ETIQUETTE (A Satire)

The nine wise men solemnly and stately entered the vast chambers; their black robes rustled as they walked. Court was in session.

"What is the charge here, Ranger?" said the local justice of peace (also the mayor of Widespot) as he took a shot at the nearby cuspidor.

"This man, Joe, I mean your honor, was caught setting fire to a broom sedge field close to the Government land, a violation of the fire laws of this State."

"Did you do that, Charley?"

"Well, Joe, I ain't saying I did and I ain't saying I didn't. In fact, I just ain't saying."

"You got proof, Ranger?" said the justice of peace, trying to expectorate while he talked and thereby saving himself from drowning only by a quick twist of his head.

"Yes," said the Ranger. "Here are sworn statements from Charley's neighbors, the Higgenbottoms, who witnessed the burning and here is a photograph of Charley as he was leaving the area."

"Charley, is that your picture?" said the justice of peace.

"Well, it kinda does look like me, Joe, although I thought I was travelling faster than that."

"Well, Charley, I guess you did it all right. I'll have to fine you \$20.00 and cost. I'll suspend the fine, but the cost will be \$2.00."

"I ain't got two bucks, Joe. You know that. But I'll bring you over some tators Saturday."

The court adjourned. The nine wise men solemnly and stately retired from the courtroom. Fair justice peeped one eye from under the blindfold and almost dropped the balance--then quickly she returned to her former position. Justice had been done again.

-- Wm. W. Huber, Assistant Forest Ranger
Pisgah National Forest

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REGION EIGHT LOSES AGAIN

As we go to press, announcement comes of the following personnel changes to be effective early in July:

Supervisor Ochsner of the Pisgah promoted to Assistant to the Assistant Regional Forester, Division of Timber Management, Region 9.

Supervisor Sears transferred from the South Carolina National Forests to the Pisgah. The Croatan, heretofore administered from South Carolina, will also be transferred for administration to the Pisgah.

Assistant Supervisor Bosworth of the Caribbean National Forest promoted to Supervisor of the South Carolina National Forests.

H. J. Eberly, Division of State and Private Forestry, transferred to the New England Forest Emergency Project where he will be in charge of state cooperation.

BUS PROVES SUCCESS ON MOTORCADE

Members of the Georgia Association of Commercial Secretaries, representing some 25 Chambers of Commerce in Georgia, recently completed a three-day tour of the Chattahoochee National Forest in a large Greyhound bus. This was the first show-me-trip of its kind ever attempted on this forest and the results were very satisfactory.

Due to the winding mountain roads, some doubt existed as to the possibility of getting over the route in reasonable time. However, no difficulty was experienced. Forest Service "all-weather" roads were put to a good test because of continued rain several days prior to the motorcade and frequent showers during the event.

One of the principal advantages in the use of a bus instead of automobiles was having the entire group assembled at all times, thereby avoiding delays for car trouble, lost drivers, and spasmodic stops. It was also found that a better spirit of comradeship existed. Jokes and group singing added much to the party.

Supervisor Fischer, the writer, and others took turns as barker, facing the passengers from the front of the bus and using a megaphone to put over some education. All places of interest were pointed out en route and stops were made at interesting points. It was found that a much better impression could be made by explaining various forest objectives as their examples were encountered, such as: "We are now crossing Smith Creek, one of the forest-protected tributaries of the Chattahoochee River. Cities, such as Columbus and Albany in south Georgia, depend on the streams rising in these forest-covered mountains for their water supply."

Phases of National Forest management were explained in detail. In order to determine just how much went over, a Professor Quiz contest was held on the return trip to Atlanta. Fifty questions were made up on points covered on the trip. A correct answer netted the person called on 10¢, while failure to answer cost 10¢. Only 11 questions were missed, proving that the trip really produced results.

Travel cost of the trip was decidedly reasonable, being based on 1¢ per mile per passenger. Thus, the 500 mile trip cost each passenger \$5.00. Buses of 25 and 42 passenger capacity may be secured for this type of show-me-trip.

-- Clint Davis, Regional Office

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APPOINTMENTS TO ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION

As the Dixie Ranger goes to press, official notice is received that Acting State Forester Fred Lang has been appointed State Forester of Arkansas, and that the following are the newly appointed personnel

of the Forestry Commission:

J. W. Rich, West Memphis
John Ashley, Melbourne
Dr. Sam G. Daniel, Marshall
Fay W. Parks, De Queen
H. R. Koen, Russellville
A. L. Strauss, Malvern
L. J. Arnold, Crossett

H. K. Thatcher and Otis Page, both of Little Rock, are ex-officio members. The Dean of the College of Agriculture, University of Arkansas, will also be an ex-officio member. The deanship is in abeyance at the present time, Dean Gray having resigned effective July 1.

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PERSONNEL CHANGES

Announcement is made of the duration probationary appointment of Mrs. Mildred L. Converse as Jr. Clerk-Stenographer in the District Supervisor's office of the Pensacola Naval Stores project.

Jr. Forester Edward E. Ripper was transferred recently from the Supervisor's office of the Florida to the Leaf River Ranger District on the Mississippi, where he will conduct a detailed investigation of the effect of sheep and hog grazing on longleaf pine reproduction and make general observations on current wildlife problems.

Jr. Forester Karl F. Thielking was transferred recently from Arkansas State to the Soil Conservation Service in Arkansas.

The probationary appointment of Thomas D. Whisnant as Motor Patrol Grader Operator on the Mt. Mitchell RD of the Pisgah was effected recently.

Minor Assistant to Technician Hardin E. Ross, motion picture operator, has been transferred from the Armuchee RD of the Chattahoochee to the Cherokee Supervisor's office.

Assistants to Technician Arthur L. Aamot, Paul R. Goodwin, and Thomas F. Swofford, who have been on detail to the Appalachian Station, were transferred on June 1 to the Mississippi, where they will supervise CCC enrollees engaged in TSI, grazing studies, fire suppression and fire damage studies, and other silvicultural work.

Resignations have been accepted recently from Joseph W. Arbuthnot, Abstractor on the Alabama, and Mrs. Mary Lou Daly, Jr. Stenographer in the Division of CCC in the Regional Office.

The following intra-unit transfers have been effected recently:

Jr. Landscape Architect Clayton J. Foster from the Ouachita Supervisor's office to the Jessieville RD.

Tom F. Cloud, Minor Scaler, from the Jessieville to the Oden RD on the Ouachita.

Benjamin A. Peters, Abstractor, from the Sabine to the Sam Houston RD on the Texas.

John J. Wolfe, Messenger of the Supervisor's office, has been promoted and transferred to the Central Repair Shop at Lake City as Under Clerk.

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THE LOOKOUT

Among recent visitors to the Regional Office were: T. A. Liefeld and Wayne Palmer, Southern Forest Experiment Station, Lake City, Florida; V. L. Harper, J. W. Girard, E. O. Buhler of the Washington Office; R. A. Conard, Columbia, S. C.; Roger D. Huff, Raleigh, N. C.; Douglas Basnett, Jackson, Mississippi; and Paul H. Russell, Montgomery, Alabama; District Forester Gordon Wallace, Georgia Division of Forestry, Macon, Ga., and District Supervisor L. E. House, Jacksonville, Fla.

Personnel Officer Riebold is on detail in the Washington Office.

Regional Librarian Rachel P. Lane attended the 31st annual conference of the Special Libraries Association held in Baltimore, Maryland, on May 23-27. The meetings on technical problems of the special library profession amounted to a training school for the 300 or so librarians who attended the conference for fresh viewpoints on the best in library service. The Special Libraries Association, distinguished from the American Libraries Association, is made up of librarians of technical concerns, business firms, corporations, scientific institutions, etc. A number of government librarians were seen among the delegates, and four or five librarians from the U. S. Department of Agriculture were among the speakers.

Two news reel shots will be made on the Pisgah National Forest in the near future according to the Regional Office of I & E. Universal Films will make a short on Neels Creek near Mt. Mitchell, which is opened exclusively for anglers of the fair sex. The ladies will land rainbows and specks for the benefit of movie audiences. Hearst Metrotone News will film a special 1200 ft. feature on the operation of the fawn farm around July 15.

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O.K. FOR USERS BUT WHY KILL RANGERS?

The following quotation from a supervisor's letter reveals a policy that would reduce appeals, but how would it affect morale in our own organization?

"Also we are encouraging Boy Scouts and other Mountain Club organizations to kill porcupines as well as Rangers and others who use the Forest." (R-2 Bulletin)

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